

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00
EB-08 FRB-03 INR-10 IO-13 NEA-11 NSAE-00 ICA-11
OPIC-03 SP-02 TRSE-00 LAB-04 SIL-01 AGRE-00
OMB-01 SS-15 DODE-00 H-01 INT-05 L-03 NSC-05
PA-01 CTME-00 STR-07 ITC-01 SOE-02 DOE-15 /151 W
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FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1910
INFO AMEMBASSY SEOUL
AMEMBASSY TOKYO

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 16260

USOECD

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: OECD, KS, ECON
SUBJECT: KOREAN PARTICIPATION IN OECD

REFS: (A) PARIS 15217, (B) PARIS 11578, (C) PARIS 9403
(NOTAL), (D) SEOUL 2398 (NOTAL), (E) STATE 92984

1. KOREAN AMBASSADOR TO FRANCE, SUK HEUN YUN, IN MAY 12 LUNCHEON WHICH HE REQUESTED WITH OECD SECRETARY GENERAL VAN LENNEP, GAVE NO INDICATION THAT KOREA WOULD LIKE TO BE ASSOCIATED IN ANY WAY WITH THE OECD, EITHER IN GENERAL, OR WITH SPECIFIC OECD ACTIVITIES SUCH AS SHIPBUILDING OR STEEL.

2. ACCORDING TO VAN LENNEP'S MEMCON, WHICH WE HAVE SEEN, KOREAN AMBASSADOR STATED THAT KOREA IS A DEVELOPING COUNTRY, A MEMBER OF G-77, AND SHOULD NOT BELONG TO THE OECD. THE AMBASSADOR EMPHASIZED THAT JUST BECAUSE KOREA HAS BEEN SUCCESSFUL IN EXPORT
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ORIENTED GROWTH POLICIES DOES NOT MEAN THAT THEY HAVE BECOME A "SECOND JAPAN".

3. IN REPLY, VAN LENNEP NOTED THAT OECD MEMBER COUNTRIES WOULD AGREE WITH THIS GENERAL POSITION TAKEN BY KOREAN AUTHORITIES. HE ADDED, HOWEVER, THAT THEIR LUNCHEON HAD SHOWN IT MIGHT BE USEFUL TO HAVE A

CONVERSATION FROM TIME TO TIME TO DISCUSS GENERAL
ECONOMIC POLICY ORIENTATIONS SUCH AS ECONOMIC GROWTH,
BALANCE OF PAYMENTS, PROTECTIONISM.

4. TONE OF LUNCHEON WAS QUITE GENERAL, CONCENTRATING
ON KOREA'S ECONOMIC GROWTH AND ROLE IN INTERNATIONAL
TRADE. AMBASSADOR UNDERSCORED KOREA'S CONCERN ABOUT
PROTECTIONISM AND STATED THAT KOREA WOULD NOT MAKE
THE "MISTAKES OF JAPAN" IN THIS AREA.
SALZMAN

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